

# ANNA CURREY

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

neural machine translation, semi-supervised NMT, syntactic NMT, language modeling

## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. in Informatics** 09/2016 - present

Institute for Language, Cognition and Computation; University of Edinburgh

- Expected graduation: 2019
- Thesis topic: Hierarchical Methods for Neural Machine Translation
- Thesis supervisors: Dr. Kenneth Heafield and Prof. Stephen Renals

**M.Sc. in Language and Communication Technologies** 09/2014 - 06/2016

Saarland University (UdS) and University of Lorraine (UL)

- Thesis title: Language Model Contextualization for Automatic Speech Recognition by Dynamic Adjustment
- Thesis supervisors: Prof. Irina Illina, Dr. Dominique Fohr, and Prof. Dietrich Klakow
- Average grade: 1.1 / 1.0 (UdS) and 18.3 / 20 (UL)

**B.A. in Mathematics and Linguistics** 08/2006 - 12/2010

University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley)

- Average grade: 3.97 / 4.0

## PUBLICATIONS

- [Anna Currey](#), Antonio Valerio Miceli Barone, and Kenneth Heafield. 2017. **Copied Monolingual Data Improves Low-Resource Neural Machine Translation**. In *Second Conference on Machine Translation*.
- Rico Sennrich, Alexandra Birch, [Anna Currey](#), Ulrich Germann, Barry Haddow, Kenneth Heafield, Antonio Valerio Miceli Barone, and Philip Williams. 2017. **The University of Edinburgh's neural MT systems for WMT17**. In *Second Conference on Machine Translation*.
- [Anna Currey](#), Irina Illina, and Dominique Fohr. 2016. **Dynamic adjustment of language models for automatic speech recognition**. In *IEEE Workshop on Spoken Language Technology*.
- [Anna Currey](#), Alina Karakanta, and Jon Dehdari. 2016. **Using related languages to enhance statistical language models**. In *NAACL Student Research Workshop*.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Research Intern** 02/2016 - 06/2016

MULTISPEECH Team, Inria (Nancy, France)

- Designed and implemented techniques for dynamically adjusting language model vocabularies in a speech recognition system
- Research culminated in master's thesis

**Research Assistant** 12/2014 - 09/2015  
Information Density and Linguistic Encoding Research Center, UdS (Saarbrücken, Germany)

- Automated corpus text processing by writing and updating Python and Perl scripts
- Implemented n-gram and class-based language models to measure information density of diachronic corpora and classify texts

**Research Assistant** 12/2014 - 6/2015  
IFCASL Project, UdS (Saarbrücken, Germany)

- Analyzed realization of focus in speech by native and non-native speakers of French and German using Praat
- Work culminated in the poster “Marking Focus in L2 French and German” presented at the International Conference on Prominence in Language (June 2015)

**Product Designer** 09/2012 - 06/2014  
IXL Learning (San Mateo, USA)

- Designed, tested, and ensured successful implementation of over 30 features for IXL’s three educational software products
- Principle designer responsible for upcoming game and study website, as well as for user-facing emails and internal accounting tools

## SKILLS

- Programming: Python, SAS, C, C++, SQL
- Toolkits: MXNet, NLTK, Theano, Stanford CoreNLP, gensim
- Human languages: English, Spanish, Catalan, German, French

## AWARDS

- Erasmus Mundus Category A Scholarship; 2014-2016
- DAAD Graduate Scholarship; 2014-2015 (declined)
- Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship Grant to Andorra; 2011-2012
- UC Berkeley Highest Distinction in General Scholarship (equivalent to *summa cum laude*); 2010
- UC Berkeley Percy Lionel Davis Award for Excellence in Scholarship in Mathematics; 2010
- UC Berkeley Geballe Research Apprenticeship; 2010
- UC Berkeley Dean’s List; 2006-2010